

ELKO INTERAGENCY DISPATCH CENTER

News Release

**Saturday, July 1, 2006, 8:30 a.m.
Elko County Fires, Update #13**

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FIREFIGHTERS RESPOND TO NEW FIRE STARTS, CONTINUE MOPPING LARGE FIRES

Elko, Nevada ... Five new starts keep area firefighters busy

Late Friday afternoon and evening, firefighters responded to five new fires scattered across Elko County. With rapid initial attack and help from scattered rain, all fires were contained quickly. The Izzenhood Flats was the largest of the new starts and burned 2000 acres about 18 miles north of Battle Mountain. The Elbow Fire near Barth burned 5 acres; the Petan Fire burned ¼ acre 6 miles south of Wilson Reservoir; the Rock Fire 10 miles south of Midas burned 25 acres; and the Little Cedar Incident in Clover Valley burned two trees and was quickly put out.

The Suzie Fire, northwest of Elko, has burned approximately 79,000 acres and is now 80% contained. “We’re continuing to make good progress on the Suzie Fire,” said Chuck Stanich, Incident Commander of the Type I Fire Management Team assigned to the fire. “The northern flank of the fire was active yesterday and we did several air tanker drops on it. We’ll continue hitting that northern edge hard today. We’re continuing to rehabilitate fire line and mop up hot spots. About 340 people were on this fire today.

The Sneekie Fire, about 5 miles west of Jiggs, Nevada, has burned about 10,400 acres and is 90% contained. The fire has not spread in the past 24 hours. Crews are continuing to mop up. About 266 people are assigned to this fire.

The North Antelope Fire is contained.

“Yesterday we had several new fire starts because of lightning and were able to catch them before they got away from us,” said Jeff Arnberger, BLM Elko Field Office Acting Fire Management Officer. “The rapid response of the volunteer fire departments and various agency fire fighting crews is the key to keeping fires small. We urge everyone to be extremely cautious this 4th of July holiday weekend.”

A fire state of emergency was declared in Elko County by the Elko County Commission and a 30-day ban on burn barrels has been put into effect.

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